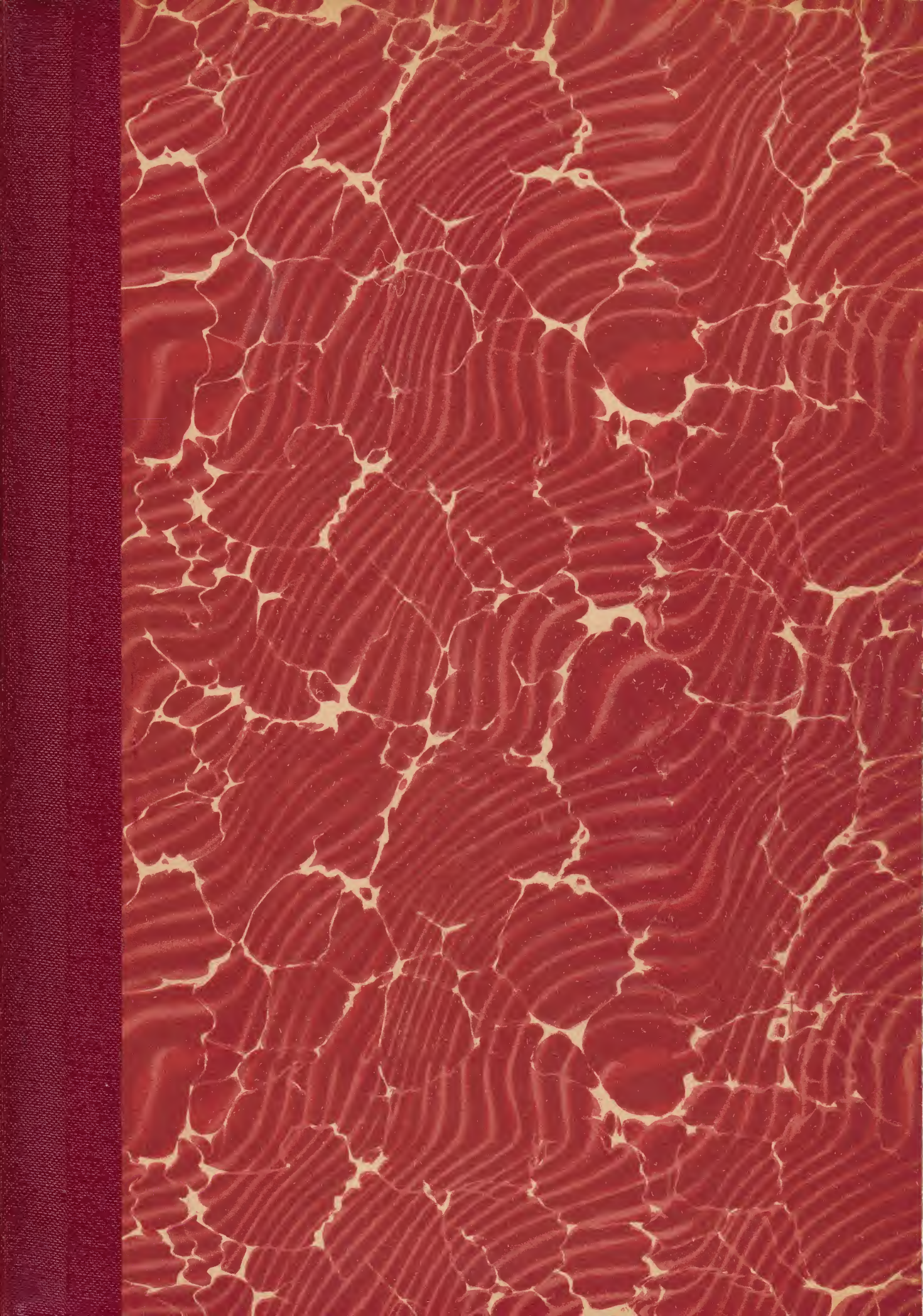




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Mrs. C. A. Fox





Charles Allen Fox

M R . & M R S .
C H A R L E S A L L E N F O X

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Charles Allen Fox was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, on November 21, 1875. His father, Charles Asa Fox, one of the earliest graduates of Kalamazoo College, was a Baptist minister. The grandfather, Daniel Fox, was of a sturdy pioneer family which settled on the Kalamazoo prairie. The mother of Mr. Charles Allen Fox was Luella DeLano Allen, a descendant of Ethan Allen.

Mr. Charles Allen Fox received his early schooling in New York state, where his father held pastorates. He attended Normal College in Potsdam, New York and also attended business college.

Shortly after the death of his father, which occurred when Charles Allen was about eighteen, the young man went to work in a bank and later travelled for the Standard Oil Company for a few years.

He came to Michigan about 1900 and worked with the Bardeen Paper Company of Otsego, Michigan, for a time. In 1901 he came to Kalamazoo, Michigan, to become affiliated with the Bryant Paper Company in

the office of the Coating Mill. Later he was elected to the office of Secretary-Treasurer of that company, of which he was a director for over thirty-one years.

On June 2, 1904, Mr. Fox was united in marriage to Miss Bessie Illes Thomas, who was born in Scranton, Pennsylvania, January 18, 1881, daughter of Thomas Thomas, who came from Wales, and his wife Elizabeth Williams Thomas, who was of Welsh descent. Thomas Thomas was super cargo on ocean sailing shipping vessels. Miss Bessie attended school in Scranton and lived there with her aunt. Her marriage to Mr. Fox took place in Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Fox began housekeeping on West Vine street in Kalamazoo, Michigan, moved to Stockbridge avenue for a short time and then bought a home on DeWitt street, where the children were born. They are:

Thomas Allen, born July 29, 1907, married Josephine Anstett and became the father of Joan Elizabeth, born November 30, 1933, and Barbara Jean, born [redacted];

William Illes, born September 20, 1911, is Sergeant Company L, 167th Infantry in the United States Army and is located at Fort Sill;

Elizabeth Mary, born October 4, 1913, married William J. Hollinde, resides in Baltimore, Maryland, and became the mother of Ellen DeLano and Elizabeth Illes.

Later the family made their home on West South street and after Mr. Fox's death Mrs. Fox bought another home on West South street near the first on that street, where she lived the remainder of her days.

Mrs. Fox was about five feet two inches tall with brown eyes and black hair turned white. She was a member of the Second Church of Christ Scientist which she served for some time as librarian and as a Sunday school teacher. She was interested in her flowers and in reading and beautifying her home.

Death came to Mrs. Fox October 24, 1942.

Mr. Fox was a member of the City Commission, interested in the City Manager government and especially interested in the financial affairs of the city. He was also a Director of the Home Savings Bank; interested in the Illinois Envelope Company; was General Manager of the Kalamazoo Trading Company and interested in other companies in Kalamazoo and elsewhere. He was a charter member of the Park Club and at one time its President. He held memberships in the Kalamazoo Country Club and in the Gull Lake Country Club. He was an active member of the Elks Lodge and the Loyal Order of Moose.

During the latter part of 1933, Mr. Fox experienced ill-health. His health continued to

fail, and on April 13, 1934, he passed away at Bronson Hospital. The immediate members of his family who survived him were: Mrs. Bessie Illes Fox, Thomas, William and Betty; one granddaughter, Joan, daughter of Thomas and Josephine Anstett Fox; his mother, Mrs. Luella Chapin of Elyria, Ohio; a sister, Mrs. Mary Moore of New York; and a brother, Dana, of Elyria, Ohio. One brother Rupert, and sister Mrs. Charlotte Wicks, preceded him in death.

Funeral services were conducted by the Reverend John Wirt Dunning. Burial was at Riverside.

A friend and neighbor, The Reverend Thomas Laity, paid the following tribute to Mr. Fox:

"Charles Allen Fox, who was an outstanding business man of the city of Kalamazoo and for many years associated in an official capacity with the Bryant Paper Company, a director of banks, and connected socially with many of the business and professional men of the city in the Park Club and Country Club, was also our next door neighbor. We frequently visited back and forth as families. He was distinguished in appearance, with the bearing of a gentleman. He gave strict attention to business. He possessed a keen sense of humor. He was well informed concerning business, economical and political trends. He was a friendly neighbor. And when he passed away - after a comparatively brief illness - the neighborhood missed him, as with great regularity he went to and from his office. His memory will be cherished by many."

Forrest Cary/ Fox



F O R R E S T C A R Y L F O X

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Forrest Caryl Fox was born at Yorkville, Michigan, January 17, 1862, son of Benjamin and Helen Mar Caryl Fox. Benjamin Fox came to Yorkville from Orleans county, New York, in April, 1837. He worked for twenty-six years in the mill which was built and owned by Tillotson Barnes; later he owned and operated a large farm of which Idlewild is a part. He passed away in 1901.

Forrest Fox attended the Yorkville school and in 1891 taught that school.

March 26, 1884, he was married to Pollie Williams of Climax and they made their home in Climax, Michigan, until her death which occurred April 19, 1888. One child was born to them and died in infancy.

Since 1888, Mr. Fox has made his home with Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wedge in Yorkville, Mrs. Wedge being his sister. He had another sister, Frances, and a brother, Charles B., both of whom are deceased. Another member of the family, a brother, Oscar Henry, resides in Battle Creek, Michigan.

Forrest Fox was a member of the Community Church Board and cared for the local semetry.

Reverend R. E. Meader, who was pastor of the Community Church for some time while Mr. Fox was a member of the Board says of him:

"Mr. Fox was one of the finest gentlemen it has been my privilege to know. Whenever anything needed doing around the church property he was always ready to do his part. When some expense was incurred he repeatedly advanced the money until funds could be raised to re-imburse him. He attended the services regularly and was always helpful and co-operative. He may have received a nominal sum for caring for the cemetery, but he spent so much time keeping it looking beautiful that for the most part it was a labor of love. It is difficult for me to find the words to adequately express the high regard which he merited."

Early on Sunday morning, May 18, 1941, he evidently left the building where he slept to go a few rods to his sister's home but was unable to reach it. Mr. Wedge found him lying on the ground and everything possible was done for him, but the end had come.

The funeral was conducted at the Community Church by the Reverend Carleton Brooks Miller, assisted by the Reverend Allen E. Bartlett and the Reverend R. E. Meader. Burial was in the cemetery near Climax. This was written in 1941.

Helen Mar Caryl Fox



H E L E N M A R C A R Y L F O X

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Helen Mar Caryl was born in Barnard, Vermont, October 4, 1829, daughter of Patty Browning and Willard Caryl of Scotch and Irish descent, sister of Charles M. Caryl and Horace B. Caryl.

When Helen Mar Caryl was ten years of age the family came to Yorkville, Kalamazoo county, Michigan. At that time Yorkville was known as Gull Mills. She attended the Yorkville school which was then located just north of the site where the church now stands in 1940.

When Helen Caryl was fifteen she began to teach school in what was known as the Bissell district, one mile north of the present site of Richland, at what was once known as Peake's corners. The post office was in an old building there and was called Geloster, derived from the names of George, Carlos, and Sylvester, sons of the man who was the post master. She taught there the summer of 1845 and the following winter she taught in Augusta, then known as "Clipnocky." Her first teacher's certificate was signed by Gilbert Read and Levi White of

Richland and is now in the possession of Mrs. Walter Wedge, a daughter of the teacher.

May 8, 1848, Helen Mar Caryl was married to Benjamin Fox, who was born in Medina, New York state, June 30, 1816, son of Sally Barber and Harvey G. Fox, and brother of William Fox and Mrs. Eliza Carlton, Mrs. Jane Ross and Mrs. Mary Lockwood.

Benjamin Fox came to Yorkville in April, 1837. For sixty years the Fox home was the largest building in Yorkville. Mr. and Mrs. Fox were the parents of:

Frances, born June 8, 1853, married Eddie Wedge, mother of Oscar, who was born March 3, 1889 and he resides in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; she died October 12, 1928;

Charles B., born December 27, 1856, married Frances Calkins, father of Myrtie, born December 15, 1881, died in 1890, and Merrill, born March 6, 1882; Bertha, born October 20, 1884, married Edwin Clark, resides in Battle Creek, Michigan; Willard, born March 5, 1887; Ada, born August 12, 1889, married Arthur Joslyn, resides in Battle Creek, Michigan;

Abbie Eliza, born October 11, 1858, married Walter Wedge November 28, 1888, mother of Floyd Sherman, born September 30, 1889, a soldier in the World War, afterward carried mail on route 9 from Kalamazoo, died May 2, 1921 and was buried in the Yorkville cemetery;

Forrest Caryl, born January 17, 1862, married Polly Williams of Climax township

March 26, 1884; she died April 19, 1888;
he resides in Yorkville;

Oscar Henry, born November 11, 1863, married
Cora Van Valkenburg, resides in Battle
Creek, Michigan.

Mrs. Helen Mar Caryl Fox was musical and played
and sang alto in the church choir at Yorkville.
She attended the Yorkville Church from its beginning
in 1851 and sang at the dedication of the building
that year. She continued to be active in the
affairs of the church throughout her life and when
the building was rededicated in 1895, after it had
been neglected and had fallen into disrepair and had
been re-roofed and redecorated, Mrs. Fox and
Augustus Barnes, the only ones who had sung at the
first dedication, were asked to come to the platform
and lead the congregation in the singing of a hymn,
which they did.

Mrs. Fox loved the old hymns and often asked
her daughter Abbie to sing "Love At Home."

Death came to Mrs. Fox December 26, 1925. The
funeral was conducted by the Reverend Carleton
Brooks Miller of Battle Creek, Michigan, and burial
was in the Yorkville cemetery. Her husband died
in April 1901.

Written in 1940.

Rudolph G. Friedhoff



R U D O L P H G . F R I E D H O F F

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Rudolph G. Friedhoff, Private No. 36884661, was born in Quincy, Illinois, July 15, 1925, the son of Rudolph B. Friedhoff, who was born February 2, 1887, and Pearl M. Davison Friedhoff, who was born June 23, 1892. Both parents were born in Quincy, Illinois, where they were also married. Their racial origin was German and English.

Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Friedhoff also became the parents of:

Frances, who was born April 14, 1912, married Joseph W. Killen and they became the parents of Joann, born January 26, 1938, and reside in Kalamazoo, Mich.; and

Arthur J., born January 28, 1914, married Rosemary Anderson and they reside in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Rudolph B. Friedhoff, the father, fought in the infantry in World War I and died in Oakland, California, October 10, 1942. Mrs. Friedhoff resides now, in 1946, at 2038 West Main street in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Rudolph G. Friedhoff attended the Saint Boniface Parish School in Quincy, Illinois, until

he reached the sixth grade when his parents moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan, and he entered St. Augustine Parish School and was graduated from the High School June 8, 1943.

During this time Rudolph served as altar boy in the St. Augustine Roman Catholic Church until he reached the eleventh grade. To help meet expenses he worked at Arney's Grocery summers and after school hours.

Military Experience

Rudolph was called into the armed service of the United States October 28, 1943, was sent to Fort Custer and the next day to Camp Blanding, Florida, where he was assigned to Company D in the First Army, in the 2nd Division, known as the Indian Head Division. He was the last boy of his high school class to enter the service and the first to lose his life.

Rudolph came home on furlough March 11, 1944, after which he went to Fort George G. Meade in Maryland and left for overseas March 30, 1944, where he lost his life June 22, 1944.

J. B. Lovless, Lt. Colonel Commanding Infantry wrote:

"Private Friedhoff was held in high regard . . . He was a splendid soldier and his exemplary action in combat was an inspiration to his fellow soldiers."

Bishop Albers wrote:

"May you earnestly consider that it was the will of God that your brave and devoted son should be called upon to make the supreme sacrifice."

Personal Characteristics

Rudolph G. Friedhoff was six feet three inches tall and weighed about one hundred sixty-five pounds. He had chestnut colored hair and blue eyes.

He was a good student, one of the best in his room, but the spirit of mischief lurking in the corner of his eye sometimes threw his classmates into gales of laughter to the discomfiture of his teachers, which enhanced his popularity.

His warm smile and engaging personality won him many friends among both young and old and with both rich and poor. He was an obliging boy and always ready to help a pal or at home. He showed great affection for the only girl in the family, his "Sis" and her daughter Joann. The appreciation which he showed for his mother made it doubly hard when the family received the message from the war department that Rudolph had been killed in combat against the enemy in St. George, France, the day before his mother's birthday anniversary. His body was laid to rest in a cemetery for our American soldiers at St. Laurens, France, in grave No. 192,

Row 10, Plot M.

There is a gold star in the window commemorating his precious memory, but within the home there is no bitterness - just pride mingled with grief, pride in the achievements of this young life, grief that the death angel marked him for his own.

Rudolph played tennis and base ball when in school and was talented in histrionics. He always tried to attend the plays at the Civic Theater. He and his much loved pal, Allan Roe, swam together at Long Lake and enjoyed other clean, wholesome sports. "Rudy" also enjoyed collecting stamps.

His body lies in France, but his soul goes marching on leading all who follow in his train to the goal of the realization of the brotherhood of man under the fatherhood of God.

Edward C. Garrett



E D W A R D C . G A R R E T T

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Edward C. Garrett, son of Fred S. and Ethel Perine Garrett, was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, November 23, 1909. He had two brothers, Paul F., residing now, 1945, in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and Forrest H., who lives in Battle Creek, Michigan. The Garretts are of Scotch-Irish descent with some Welsh.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred S. Garrett were married in Indiana and came at once to Michigan where they have since resided - most of the time at 623 Elm street in Kalamazoo.

Edward attended the Woodward Avenue School through the eighth grade and then entered Central High School, from which he was graduated in 1928. While yet in school he worked with his father in the offices of the well known Fred S. Garrett and Son Insurance Agency and after graduation continued to work with his father in the insurance business until he was called into the armed services of his country May 24, 1943.

Military Experience

Edward C. Garrett was inducted into service at

Fort Custer and sent to Camp Roberts, California, where he was attached to Field Artillery and took training until March 1944, when he was transferred to Fort Sill, Oklahoma. with the 280th Field Artillery Battalion, Battery A.

His first furlough was in April 1944 and the following June he was transferred to Camp Polk, Louisiana. His last furlough before going overseas was from July 26 to August 9, 1944, and the following September he shipped for England. By the nineteenth of that month he had reached France. There his outfit was given further training and got into action in November. Edward was in engagements in France, Germany and Belgium and was killed in action at Beek on the Weser River in Germany April 6, 1945. His rank was Private First Class.

Marriage

Edward C. Garrett was married to Bernice Stofer, formerly of Glen Ellyn, Illinois, November 19, 1937, and they became the parents of Walter Fred [REDACTED].

Personal Characteristics

Edward was six feet one inch tall, weighed about one hundred ninety-five pounds and had black hair and blue eyes.

He was a member of the Kalamazoo Association

of Insurance Agents, the Fidelity Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons and the Simpson Methodist Church, where he also belonged to the Fa-ho-lo Class in the Church school.

Edward was an ardent fisherman and his wife joined him in this sport. He also enjoyed hunting for small game. In high school he played basket ball.

He was quiet and unassuming but enjoyed bantering and joking with others in the social circles in which he moved.

His wife carried on his insurance work while he was in the service and after his death.

Edward C. Garrett was a fine man, a popular citizen and had a promising future, but he loved his country and responded to its call in its hour of need.

Roger Sherwood Garrett



ROGER SHERWOOD GARRETT

1924 - 1943

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Ancestry

In writing the story of Roger Garrett we begin with his grandparents. On his father's side of the house was Sherman Daniel Garrett, a native of Ann Arbor, Michigan, who married Marian Sherwood of Martin, Michigan. Both the Garretts and Sherwoods were well liked families in their respective communities. The son of Sherman and Marian Sherwood Garrett was named Sherwood Sherman and was born in Barry county, Michigan, March 29, 1900. He married Ethel Leah Hinderleider, who was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, August 24, 1904. Her father, Jerome, born in Saranac, Michigan, joined Troop L of the United States First Volunteer Cavalry, became a Quartermaster Sergeant in rank and was one of Teddy Roosevelt's "Rough Riders." Jerome's wife was Loretta Parent of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Sherwood Garrett and Ethel Hinderleider, both educated in Kalamazoo schools, were married in Kalamazoo and immediately set up their home in this city, where Sherwood had found employment as a laboratory technician in the Upjohn Company.

He secured that position in 1919 and held it ever since except for a period of six months. He enlisted in the United States Army in October 1942, was called into service January 30, 1943, and was released because of age July 22, 1943, having been stationed for those five months at Camp Red River, Texas, and at Camp Hood, Texas.

Roger

The only child of the Sherwood Garretts, was named Roger Sherwood. He was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, June 7, 1924, and spent all his life before induction into the armed forces in this city. He lived the life of the average boy, entered the public schools and enrolled at Central High School. He liked Manual Arts, especially mechanical drawing, for which he showed special aptitude. He took work in the machine shop, liking to work with his hands at almost anything of a constructive nature.

In his junior year he left school to go to work. Other boys were enlisting or being drafted into the armed services of the United States and Roger felt the restlessness of the other fellows. He worked for awhile at the Sutherland Paper Mills and on March 1, 1943, was inducted into the armed forces.

He took his basic training at Fort McClellan,

Alabama; from there went to Camp Shenango, Pennsylvania. In July of the same year, he was sent overseas and assigned to Company A 133rd Infantry. He saw action in North Africa and in Italy. It was in Italy that he fell in battle September 30, 1943, nineteen years and three months of age. He had been in the army seven months and overseas about two months.

Personal Characteristics

Roger was five feet six inches tall, of slender build and had dark hair and eyes with an olive skin. The first thing one noticed about him were his expressive brown eyes and his engaging smile. He was popular with the other young people and always ready to be one of a group to go out for a good time. The zest and enthusiasm he put into life was that of a typical boy.

When he took the time he would read anything he could lay his hands on, or, he listened to the radio and enjoyed the music, although he had not developed his own musical talent. He liked to bowl and engage in other games of interest to his young set, including hunting and fishing and other out-of-door sports. His life was never dull. His interests kept him busy and filled the lives of his parents too, as will the activities of an only

child. Roger's father and mother were not only his parents, they were his pals and warm friends, guiding him to be sure, but understanding, loving and appreciating him. He was a good boy, but would be the first to disclaim any such virtue.

Roger was a member of Scout Troop 20 of the First Methodist Church although he was baptized in St. Luke's Protestant Episcopal Church and attended that Sunday school and church.

Military Experience

Roger joined the Michigan State Troops No. 309, of which his dad was captain. They went on actual duty from December 13, 1941, at the Federal Communication Commission, Monitor Station, Allegan county, until February 4, 1942, when they were relieved by regular Army troops.

When the disturbance over the Sojourner Truth Housing Project arose in Detroit, Michigan, the State troops were sent there on April 24, 1942, and remained until May 13, 1942. Two other Kalamazoo boys, Louis Hanes and Robert Perry*, who later lost their lives in this war, also accompanied the troop on this tour of duty. All these three, Louis, Robert and Roger, died within a few weeks of each other, possibly less than a month.

Roger Sherwood Garrett, though young in years

* Later reported alive and a prisoner of war

and only a few months in the service of his country, took a man's place in the fight for the "Four Freedoms" and for his country. He died as gallantly as he lived.

All hail, Roger, we salute you!

This was written in 1943.



Flora Garrison

M I S S F L O R A G A R R I S O N

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MISS FLORA GARRISON was born in Kalamazoo County, daughter of Emma V. Phillips and Richard A. Garrison. Her father was born in Cass County, Michigan, in 1849, on the 7th of September. Her mother was born in the State of New York near Rochester.

Miss Garrison's childhood was in the rural communities of Alamo and Oshtemo Townships where she attended school and later took training in Parsons Business College in Kalamazoo. For six years she taught school.

In 1900 Miss Garrison became assistant in the office of Register of Deeds and was made Deputy. For most of twenty years she served in this capacity and in 1920 was elected to the office of Register of Deeds and has been continuously re-elected to that official position so that she has had many years of service and is at this time (1936) a candidate for nomination on the Republican ticket at the coming primary to succeed herself as Register of Deeds.

Miss Garrison attends the Congregational Church and is a charter member of the Kalamazoo Business and Professional Women's club.

Miss Garrison has two brothers residing on farms in Alamo Township. Frank A. Garrison was born in Oshtemo Township and Charles L. Garrison was born in VanBuren County.

The following is the genealogy of Miss Garrison's family: Anneke Webber was the daughter of Wolfoot Webber, daughter of William Wallas, the fourth King of Holland.

Anneke Webber married Rolef Jans in Holland. They came to New York in 1633. Their children were: Sarah, who married Dr. Hans Kiersted; Catherine, who married Johannus Van Brugh; Frtgie, who married Peter Hartgers; Rolef, with no issue.

Anneke became a widow and married the Reverend Everadus Bogardus January 29, 1638. Their children were: *William, who was born in 1639 and married Wintgie Saybrant; Cornelius, who was born in 1640 and married Rachel Dewit; Jonas, who was born in 1643 and had no issue; Peter, who was born in 1646 and had no issue.

*William Bogardus married Wintgie Saybrant August 29, 1656. Their children were: Everadus, who was born in 1659 and was baptized November 2, 1660, and died young; Frtgie, who was born in March, 1661; *Annitgie, who was born October 3, 1663 and married Jacobus Brower.

Jacobus Brower was the son of Adam and Madaline Brower and married Annitgie Bogardus January 29, 1682. Their children were: Saybrant, who was born March 8, 1683 and married Sarah Webber, March 22, 1706; Jacob, who was born November 30, 1684 and married Petro Nella DeLaMontague; *William, who was born in 1687 and married (1) Maria Hennion, (2) Rebecca Vedder; Everodas, who was born December 8, 1689; John, who was born in 1691; Elizabeth, who was born November 15, 1694 and married Jacob Quackenbush; Adam, who was born March 27, 1696 and married Deborah Allen; Peter, who was born in 1699 and married Elizabeth Quackenbush; Wentgie, who was born October 1, 1701 and married Richard Petit; Maddelina, who was born March 8, 1704 and married John Drake.

*William Brower married Maria Hennion May 29, 1709. There were no children. He married a second time to Rebecca Vedder in 1711. Their children were: Johanas, who was born February 17, 1712; Jurah, who was born December 4, 1715; Arsut, born March 20, 1718; Catrina, born September 17, 1720; Herman, born January 6, 1723; William Jr., born September 26, 1725; Elizabeth, born January 23, 1731; *Maria, born June 2, 1734.

*Maria Brower married Abraham Garrison April 27, 1761, Albany County, New York. Their children were:

Rachel, born in 1762; Abram, born October 29, 1763, married Jane Francisco; *John, born September 29, 1764, died June 17, 1838, married (1) Polly Harris, (2) Cornelia Vandercook, born February 10, 1772.

*John Garrison and Polly Harris had the following children: Hassel, born July 11, 1789; John, born August 9, 1790, died in 1871. *John Garrison and Cornelia Vandercook, his second wife, had the following children: Mary, born October 20, 1793, died in 1871; Ann, born May 20, 1796, died September 20, 1847; Olive, born in 1798, died May 5, 1836; Lewis, born September 26, 1800, died March 26, 1843; Elsie, born March 14, 1805, died July 17, 1839; Henry, born September 25, 1810, married Roxanna Curtiss; Cornelia, born October 20, 1812.

*Henry Garrison, born September 25, 1810, and Roxanna Curtiss were the parents of the following children: Abram Franklin, born February 17, 1840, died January 22, 1917, married Sarah O. Wood, born in 1860 and died June 8, 1903; James S., born January 4, 1842, died January 10, 1911, married Eudora V. Powell, born March 14, 1842, died February 14, 1915; Henry, born January 16, 1847, died July 9, 1931, married Chloe E. Powell, born June 30, 1850, died November 12, 1924, no issue; *Richard A., born September 7, 1849, married Emma V. Phillips, born

December 11, 1852, died October 5, 1914; Levi, born August 22, 1853, died June 17, 1904, married Lula E. Buckhout, born January 15, 1861, died November 25, 1914; Anna S., born December 14, 1854, died November 6, 1923, married Eugene E. Blodgett, born May 3, 1843, died April 4, 1925.

*Richard A. Garrison and Emma V. Phillips were the parents of Frank A., Charles L., and *Flora, the subject of this article.

(The above was written in 1936)

Harold Stewart Garrison



H A R O L D S T E W A R T G A R R I S O N

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Lieutenant Harold Stewart Garrison serving with the United States mechanized cavalry as Platoon Leader of the lead platoon of a task force in its drive through the Brittany Peninsula was ambushed by the enemy near Dol, France, and was fatally wounded by enemy gunfire in the ensuing action and died August 3, 1944.

Birth and Education

Harold was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, February 25, 1911, a son of George A. Garrison of English and Scotch ancestry. Harold's mother was Helen Christenson Garrison and was born in Aalborg, Denmark, July 28, 1887, and came with her parents to Ludington, Michigan, at the age of three years. George A. Garrison was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, November 24, 1886. They were married in Kalamazoo, Michigan, September 25, 1907, by the Reverend C. A. Hemenway, pastor of the Portage Baptist Church.

William Albright, a brother of Harold, born July 9, 1908, became a Lieutenant in USNR, stationed at one time at Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania.

George Anderson, another brother of Harold, born August 7, 1912, was Private First Class and served with the United States Infantry in Italy.

Harold's paternal great grandfather fought and died in the Civil War and Harold's maternal grandfather and two of his mother's brothers were soldiers, the grandfather in the Danish army and his mother's two brothers in World War I. Harold also had six cousins who served in World War II.

Harold attended the old Lovell Street School through the grades and was graduated from Central High School in 1928. While in school he took part in cross country runs with the track team, was featherweight champion boxer, managed basketball teams and belonged to the Spanish Club.

In 1930 he entered Kalamazoo College. In his sophomore year, his brother William persuaded him to go to the University of Michigan, where he made a fine record and was a member of the Theta Delta Chi fraternity. But his heart was in Kalamazoo College and he returned to it for his last two years and was graduated in 1934. In college he won honors in basketball, track and golf and was named on MIAA squads.

While in college he worked summers in the office of the Allied Paper Mills. After graduation

he was employed in the office of the Kalamazoo Stationery Company, and played on the company basket ball team. He also played basket ball on team of the First Congregational Church in Kalamazoo and with the "Kalamazoo Harriers." He was well known in golfing circles and was runner up several times for the City Championship. He won many honors in golf and his record is now, in 1945, still the highest at the Warren Valley Country Club, Detroit, Michigan. In 1939 he won the championship with a score of 68 and the gold trophy he received is greatly treasured by his mother.

Harold Stewart Garrison was inducted into the service of his country June 15, 1942, and chose to be assigned to the mechanized cavalry. He was trained at Fort Riley, Kansas, and was sent overseas March 7, 1944, and served with Troop C, 17th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron.

Personal Characteristics

Harold was five feet ten inches tall and was slender in build. He had brown hair and eyes. He was of a studious nature, slow to give his warm-hearted friendship but very loyal to those to whom he gave it. He saved his money, dressed well and presented a good appearance but was not flashy or spectacular. He was thoughtful of his parents

and before he left he admonished his mother to
"keep things going" until his return.

His mother received the Purple Heart posthumously, with three battle stars, and the scroll signed by the President of the United States, which reads: "He stands in the unbroken line of patriots who have dared to die that freedom might live."

The following are excerpts from letters received by Harold's mother:

"At the request of the President, I write to inform you that the Purple Heart has been awarded posthumously to your son . . ."

Henry L. Stimson

"It is with the deepest regret that I write to offer my sympathy in the death of your son, Lt. Harold S. Garrison, O-1 031 643.

Of your son's complete devotion to duty and bravery under the most trying circumstances you may justly be proud. . . ."

John R. Henderson
Captain, Cavalry,
Commanding.

"We were proud of him, and always shall be among those wonderful men from the Michigan chapter as well as from other Charges of the Fraternity. . . ."

A. Oman Hackett
Graduate Secretary
Theta Delta Chi.

"Your son belonged to a fighting unit, Mrs. Garrison, with a history of battles all across France, Holland and Germany. His was no easy task. He could not sit back in a desk chair behind the lines. He was a combat soldier and a good one. . . ."

ROBERT J. QUINN, JR.
Lt. Colonel, Cavalry
Commanding.

"The official report of interment received in this office reveals that the remains of your son are interred in the U. S. Military Cemetery, Marigny Cemetery #1, France, Grave 119 Row 6, Plot L. This cemetery is located approximately five miles west and south of St. Lo and ten miles east and north of Coutances both in France. "

M. V. Turner
Colonel, QMC,
Assistant

Harold Stewart Garrison, citizen, soldier, lover of a clean life and clean sports, loyal son of his parents and loyal son of his country, gave his life to preserve freedom. God grant that he may not have died in vain.

Mr. & Mrs. George Elmer Gatas



MR . & MRS .
GEORGE ELMER GATES
1866 - 1943
1870 -

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George Elmer Gates, son of Albert and Ella Monteith Gates, was born in Otsego, Michigan, October 29, 1866. He was the eldest of three sons. Leon was born in 1873 and died when five years of age. Roy was born May 24, 1880, and resides at the time of this writing in 1943, in Battle Creek, Michigan.

Both the Gates and Monteith families were prominent among the pioneer families of Allegan county, Michigan.

George Gates attended school in Otsego, after which he helped his father on the farm. While yet a lad he became interested in book binding and used to put binders on his Sunday school papers and other leaflets which came into his possession.

In 1889, when the young man was twenty-three years of age, he came to Kalamazoo and began working for Ihling Brothers and Everard, where he learned the technique of book binding. While working for this firm he met another employee, Miss Myrtie E. Keyes,

and on March 4, 1891, their marriage was solemnized at her home, 315 Douglas avenue, Kalamazoo, the Reverend E. V. Armstrong officiating. They were attended by Maud Keyes and Brink Tucker.

Myrtie was the daughter of Nathaniel Keyes, originally from Niagara Falls, and Louisa Briggs Keyes, formerly from Vermont, and was born in Decatur, Michigan, March 4, 1870. She had the following brothers and sisters: Bertha Adelaide, born November 1, 1856; Charles H., born February 28, 1862, is deceased; William Briggs, born June 6, 1865; Robert N., born November 9, 1867; and Maud, born May 24, 1872, and is deceased. The Keyes family was of English stock. They moved from Decatur to Kalamazoo, Michigan, in 1880. Mr. and Mrs. George E. Gates began housekeeping in Otsego, Michigan, where he worked on the farm and in the paper mills, and as often as possible he came to Kalamazoo for lessons in engraving.

They moved back to Kalamazoo in 1893, where he was employed by Doubleday Brothers. Later he was employed by the Grace Corset Company and had charge of the printing office making sales books.

Mr. and Mrs. Gates became the parents of:

Leon George, born in Otsego, Michigan, February 4, 1892, married Vivian Weir of Los Angeles, California, whom he met while stationed

in California with the United States Army during the first World War, and he became the father of Jack Monteith and Shirley Ann;

Dorothy Marie, born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, April 23, 1899, married Raymond C. Rose and became the mother of Natalie, Zelma, Marva and David George, and resides in Comstock, Michigan;

Portia Mildred, born March 25, 1901, married Leon J. Shellman, became the mother of Henry Gordon and Richard Clare, both of whom, at the time of this writing in 1943, are in the service of their country, Henry in Oregon and Richard Clare in Pontiac, Michigan, the parents residing in Comstock, Michigan;

Natalie Louise, born August 20, 1914, married William LeRoy Powell, became the mother of Barbara Ann and resides in Comstock, Michigan.

While working in the Grace Corset Company factory, Mr. Gates began building a home in Comstock on what is now King's Highway and moved his family there in 1909. He continued working in Kalamazoo, but built a shop of his own on his lot on the bank of the Kalamazoo river. He also developed a small park known as Gates Park.

Gradually the work Mr. Gates was doing in his own shop increased in volume until it required all his time and he gave up his work in Kalamazoo and devoted all his time to making sales books, book-binding and doing other work demanding special artistry. For twenty-nine years he continued working in his own shop. Among the truly beautiful

things he made is the Lord's prayer in scroll work and other artistic pieces for his children. In all his intricate hand work he showed ingenuity, skill and great patience. He was a keen observer and in an art shop, gallery or taking a walk he would see much more than the usual observer.

In his young manhood, Mr. Gates attended the Simpson Methodist Church, but later increasing deafness kept him from enjoying such services. In politics he was a Republican and was active in local, township and school board offices, and as a member of the Comstock Civic Improvement League. He was generous, charitable in his judgments, kind and tender in his home life.

January 16, 1943, Mr. Gates passed away at his home where he had spent many happy years and in which Mrs. Gates remains. Funeral services were conducted by the Reverend Richard F. Barram of the Bethel Baptist Church in Kalamazoo with burial in Riverside cemetery. Mr. Gates will be remembered always as a workman that never needed to be ashamed of his work.

"Workman rest! thy task is o'er;
Now upon the farther shore
Lands the voyager at last."

Jack Gates



J A C K G A T E S

1 9 2 3 - 1 9 4 4

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Jack Gates was born in Grants Pass, Oregon, August 29, 1923, the son of Leon G. Gates, who was born in Otsego, Michigan, February 4, 1892, of Welsh descent.

Jack's mother was Vivian H. Weir Gates, who was born in Boone, Iowa, February 19, 1898, the daughter of John H. Weir of Scotch descent and Opal DeWolf Weir of French Canadian descent.

Jack had one sister, Shirley Ann, born [REDACTED]. The family remained in Grants Pass until 1940 when they came to Comstock, Michigan. His education was secured in the schools of these two places with graduation from the Comstock School in 1942.

The lad was of a mechanical turn of mind and was interested in airplanes since his childhood. He took three years of mechanical drawing in high school and earned good marks. He made six or more model airplanes and read airplane magazines.

Jack enlisted in the United States Army the day of his graduation, June 4, 1942, and was called to

duty November 6, 1942, and assigned to the Air Corps, as a cadet. He had intended to go to college but responded to the call of his country instead.

Cadet Jack Gates was sent first to Hondo, Texas, for five months training. He was an apt student as a pilot, having soloed after eight hours of instruction when he was but sixteen years of age.

From Hondo, Texas, he was sent to Seymour Johnson Field, North Carolina, for mechanical and technical training and was graduated as an engineer. He was then sent to Fort Myers, Florida, to gunnery school, after which he was given his flying equipment, which he brought with him when he came home at Christmas time 1943 for a visit of two weeks before reporting to the United States air corps replacement center at Salt Lake City, Utah. He remained at Salt Lake City for about four weeks and was then sent to Alexandria air base for further training.

Jack had been at Alexandria air base in Louisiana less than a month when he and five others in his crew of a Flying Fortress lost their lives when their bomber crashed near its base at the U. S. army airfield at Alexandria, Louisiana.

Sergeant Gates' flight crew was on routine maneuvers at the time the bomber exploded after

striking a wooded section along the highway near Boyce, Louisiana, Sunday night, March 19, 1944.

The body was sent to Comstock and then to Detroit, Michigan, for cremation. The ashes were taken in a plane from Lindbergh Field, Kalamazoo, Michigan, and scattered in the air over Comstock May 11, 1944.

Personal Characteristics

Sgt. Jack Gates was of medium height and weighed about one hundred sixty pounds, with blonde hair, blue eyes and an engaging smile.

The following copy of a letter he wrote gives a good picture of one of his experiences and shows the kind of man he was:

Army Air Field, Alexandria, La.

March 1944.

Today we chalked up another five hours, and I had the controls for a few minutes, with Bob the co-pilot. She's pretty heavy on the controls, but nevertheless, a very stable ship. It's the first time I've handled a ship in a year and a half, but I don't think I am too rusty. After all it is lots and lots of airplane.

Bob says I'll get some dual soon. I guess I'll get landings and take-offs too. I have to be able to take over the ship in an emergency.

Bunker is doing a swell job of flying, and Thompson isn't bad as a co-pilot.

I had an instructor-engineer for the first time since the first flight, today, and he said I

I was doing fine. It sure is a responsibility for a change, but I am going to show them I am capable of getting my wings and a commission. There are a million and one things to know. No wonder it takes a long time to train "key" crew members, and then you don't feel you know enough to go in there.

I always have more fun with Thompson, than a little bit. We carry on a constant feud. He is always debating how many missions we will be good for, and it always leads to an argument, which will, doubtless, never be settled. Questions are fired continuously; any subject, just so it stumps the other fellow. Anyway, we get a kick out of it, and also keeps the others entertained.

I don't care for O. C. T., but it is the way I can get pilot training. As a student officer, I could get in easy. I want to get those wings and I will. I bought a pair in town yesterday for Bob, and they surely looked good.

Say, I know you would get a kick out of hearing a couple of incidents we've had - - - The other day, on an afternoon flight, we had an instructor pilot, riding in Bob's place, giving Bunker a little workout.

Well, this bird is just back from the South Pacific, and just aching to show the boys how they use low altitude, skip bombing to decrease the maritime strength of the "Rising Sun". There is a big lake, Catahula, north east of Alexandria, so he dives the 17 for the lake, and pulls out right on the water. Altimeter reading Zero, and airspeed resting on the 200 mark.

As we approach the opposite side, the brush-land looms above us. He pulled it up into a wing-over, and headed down across the drink again.

We have an instructor-Radio Operator aboard, and I nearly died laughing to see him tearing around the ship dragging his parachute with the Altimeter reading Zero. About that time, our Radio man got air-sick, so he cut out the shenanigans and began giving Bunker landings.

Then there was the other nigh when we got lost. We were headed out to the bombing range, just east of the town of Jaspar, in east Texas, to dump a load of practice eggs with a slight charge. We were at 10,000 and the 50 mile wind must have blown us off the course, and we missed Jaspar. We saw lots of towns but could not identify them.

We circled Baton Rouge, and saw Hording Field below, but did not know what town it was. Finally we came out over New Orleans and the Gulf cinched it. I had Benny Goodman on as we came over, and New Orleans sure showed up good and bright. What a circus!

Wustrack, the bombardier, was with me back of Bunker. He kept saying, "for ...(censored) sake, Bunker, stay away from that(censored) thing", as he gestured toward theGulf. We all laughed over that later. Thompson plotted a course back to our field, with me heckling, of course.

We got back about midnight and went out to look at the range, but the lights were out, so we did not drop the eggs that night. When we came over Alexandria, the tower was calling us. Army 143, this is Alexandria tower. Well Army 143 answered, and we got our landing instructions

Boy, what a night, late, no eggs. What more could happen?

The day before we did the deck bombing on the lake, that old boy was "buzzing" a pasture with crew # 3273 and they knocked over a cow with the prop blast; so you can see what a mad house it is.

The following letter indicates the high regard in which he was held:

O. C. T.

C I T A T I O N O F H O N O R

UNITED STATES

ARMY AIR FORCES

SERGEANT JACK GATES

Who gave his life in the performance of duty

March 19, 1944

He lived to bear his country's arms. He was a soldier...and he knew a soldier's duty. His sacrifice will help to keep aglow the flaming torch that lights our lives...That millions yet unborn may know the priceless joy of liberty. And we who pay him homage, and revere his memory, in solemn pride rededicate ourselves to a complete fulfillment of the task for which he so gallantly has placed his life upon the altar of man's freedom.

H. H. Arnold
Gen. U. S. Army,
Commanding General Air Forces.



William Edmond Geary

W I L L I A M E D M O N D G E A R Y

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William Edmond Geary was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, November 22, 1863, son of Mary Flynn and Thomas Geary, of Irish descent. Mr. Geary had one brother, James E. Geary of Long Beach, California, and two sisters, May Geary and Mrs. J. J. E. Wolffe, both of Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Mr. Geary was reared in Kalamazoo County, attended school at Howlandsburg and in Hope Township, near Hickory Corners.

When about twenty-one years of age he came to the city of Kalamazoo and worked in the Reed Foundry and about 1884 went to work for the Chambers Art Store for the next nine years, until 1893, when he purchased the business and remained in that location, 126 South Burdick street, until June, 1936, when the store was moved to 316 West Michigan Avenue.

Mr. Geary was well known throughout the Middle West to art collectors and importers. He established a reputation for handling only reliable merchandise and his patrons had learned to depend on his work in matters pertaining to art. He was a charter

member of the Institute of Arts and took a very active interest in its affairs.

Mr. Geary joined the Elks Lodge, May 28, 1899, and remained a member until his death. He held the offices of Leading Knight, of Chaplain for seven years, and was a Past Exalted Ruler, having been Exalted Ruler in 1908. He was very active in promoting the activities of the lodge and had much to do with building the Temple. He was also a member of the Chamber of Commerce and was a Democrat.

In 1883, Mr. Geary married Mary Ellen De Bach of Plainwell. She died in 1927. They were the parents of:

Constance, who died at the age of thirteen, and

Lucille, who married Lyman Fisher and resides in Jackson, Michigan, and is the mother of Carol Jean Fisher.

June 21, 1928, Mr. Geary married Mrs. Hazel Daley Reynolds. He was five feet eleven inches tall and weighed about 175 pounds. His hair was white and his eyes were hazel. He was frank and outspoken in his opinions and was very fair in his dealings.

Death came to Mr. Geary, Saturday morning, April 16, 1938. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend John Wirt Dunning, D. D., and burial was in Mountain Home cemetery.



Marcus Gibbs

1835-1935

M A R C U S G I B B S .

On August 10, 1935, Kalamazoo paid a community's tribute to a worthy citizen. It honored a man whose distinction is much rarer than outstanding success in politics, business, education, science or any of the other recognized fields of wide usefulness. And the occasion was a notable one for Kalamazoo, as well as for the recipient of its congratulations, for never before did the city have the honor, as it did on this day, of helping a native resident of the county to celebrate his one hundredth birthday anniversary.

Marcus Gibbs, at the end of a full century, was the community's first citizen for the day. At the beginning of the century, he very narrowly missed being the community's first native citizen in the literal sense of the word. On August 10, 1835, when he was born to pioneer parents in a log cabin near the present village of Oshtemo, Kalamazoo's first white child was only a year old. The future city itself was only a cluster of rude log cabins and frame houses without benefit of incorporation as a village, and the Indians still roamed the broad prairie lands and woodlands of the county. Thus his life spans the entire history of Kalamazoo from the rich promise of the frontier settlement to the

fulfilment of today's progressive city.

An uneventful life it was by ordinary standards, but one that has just been crowned with an achievement of real community importance. He dedicated his active years to agriculture in useful service to his fellow citizens, but he set an example for all in a perennial youthfulness of spirit that no doubt contributed something to his great longevity. He was typical of his century, the most marvelous in the world's history, in that he was perpetually fascinated by the new and the progressive. One instance of his forward-looking attitude was reflected by his keen interest in motorcars - those gadgets a speedmad generation developed after he was old enough for a pension - and the delight he took in anticipating new models and in studying the pictures and descriptions of them in the papers. He himself did not give up driving until after he was ninety-three years old.

His interest in children is to him a fountain of youth and a never-failing source of enjoyment. Nearly every day he sits for hours on the front porch of his daughter's home and watches the play of the neighborhood boys and girls. Sometimes he delights them with flashes of a kindly humor that springs from his healthful outlook on life. In fact

he still possesses an inveterate propensity toward wise-cracking, as instanced by his comment when first shown a streamlined car. "You could slide right down the back of that one," he said with a chuckle.

Kalamazoo congratulates this remarkable centenarian; and in spirit it joins with his relatives at the family reunion at Crooked Lake, Delton, in extending its heartiest wishes for many happy returns of the day.

Genesee

Marcus Gibbs was born in a Grand Prairie log cabin, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Gibbs. He spent most of his active life farming and supervising his farm near Oshtemo. He married twice and when his second wife died a few years ago he came to Kalamazoo to live with his daughter, Mrs. Eva Smith, 121 East Cedar Street. He has two grand children, the children of another daughter, who died in 1911, Mrs. Ada Laity. His grandchildren are Mrs. Irene Laity Shell, a teacher of music in the Lincoln School and Harry Almon Laity, Benton Harbor. His only great-grandchild is nine-year-old Thomas Harvey Laity.

He died at the home of his daughter November 9, 1935. Age 100 years and three months - lacking one day. Burial in the family lot at Oshtemo. Funeral attended by a large number of people.

George Gibson



George A. Gibson



Mrs George Gibson

G E O R G E A M B R O S E G I B S O N

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M I N N I E W O L V E R T O N G I B S O N

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The story of George and Minnie Gibson is very interesting to the listener or the reader. George Gibson was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana, the son of Joseph and Elizabeth Disler Gibson, both of whom were of Pennsylvania Dutch stock. The date of his birth was July 14, 1869. At the time Joseph resided on his father's farm, ten miles south of Ft. Wayne and the farm remains in possession of the family at the time of this writing in 1942.

George was an only child and when he was six years of age the family moved to Jackson, Michigan, where two years later the mother died. George attended the Roman Catholic parochial school in Jackson for two years and then went to live with an aunt on a farm at White Oak, Ingham county, Michigan, where he grew to young manhood, attending school until he was twelve, after which he supported himself, working for the farmers summers and staying winters with his aunt.

The father, Joseph, was a Civil War veteran and eventually went to live at the Soldiers' Home in Marion, Indiana, where he passed away in 1913.

When George was on his way to the funeral he met an aunt and uncle whom he had not seen since he was two years old, the three of them by chance boarding the same street car on their way to the Soldiers' Home.

Three miles from his aunt's home lived a family by the name of Wolverton, whose daughter Minnie George frequently met at neighborhood parties and as a result they were married November 11, 1891, by the Reverend Charles Austin, at her father's home. She was born in Genessee county, Michigan, September 2, 1873, daughter of John C. and Isadore Adelaide Bishop Wolverton, he of Jersey Dutch stock and she of Scotch Irish extraction.

Minnie had a brother and a sister older and a sister and brother younger than herself. The older brother, Aaron, died in infancy; Nellie Elizabeth married Robert Beaty and resides in Pontiac, Michigan; Cora Bess married Frank Harris and is deceased; and Charles Adelbert died at nine years of age.

Minnie attended school in Ingham county. When she was twelve years old her mother passed away and her sister's early marriage made it necessary

for Minnie to be her father's housekeeper until her father married again three years later. This second mother was very kind and tenderly cared for the family, but Minnie found work outside her father's home and earned her own living. Her father passed away in 1928, two years following the death of his second wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Gibson began housekeeping on a farm three miles from her father's home, which George had rented before they were married. Few were their possessions. When she was fourteen her father had given her a bed without springs, the straw tick resting on the slats. This bed was set up in the new home. One time when the tick was filled frozen straw was used and when it thawed out during the night the occupants found themselves in a soggy mess.

After one and one-half years on this farm, the newly-weds moved to a farm north of Dansville, Michigan, where they lived for a year and then returned to a farm one-half mile east of her father's home where their only child, Nettie Loretta, was born June 5, 1894; she married Floyd Brown and resides one block from her parents' present home on Stockbridge avenue in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

About February, 1895, Mr. and Mrs. Gibson and their little daughter moved to Kalamazoo and made their home on Parsons street. George found work at the Standard Wheel Works at eleven cents an hour for a ten hour day. One noon he came home and found his wife and baby ill and remained there to care for them. When he returned to work the next morning he was fired. He then worked at odd jobs for a time and then secured more lucrative employment with the Kalamazoo Buggy and Wagon Company from April till July, after which he worked with the Chicago, Kalamazoo and Saginaw Railway Company for eighteen months, part of the time on the section and part of the time unloading freight, receiving one dollar and ten cents per day. When he asked for \$1.25 per day and got it, he could hardly believe it.

Mr. Gibson's next advancement was a job with the Municipal Lighting Plant on Walbridge street, first as fireman and then as boiler man, receiving \$40 per month. He was greatly interested in this work as it gave him a chance to learn about boilers. After two years in this position under Mr. E. H. Smith, Mr. Gibson went with the Michigan Central Railway Company for a time and then went to the Bryant Paper Company as Assistant Engineer for Mill

No. 2, just opened, working nights for \$1.25 a night, thirteen hours, again under his old friend, E. H. Smith. All told he worked for the Bryant Paper Company thirteen different times, taking various other jobs in between. He worked for the Van Bochove Planing Mill from six A. M. to six P. M. for eight dollars a week.

One morning J. B. Foote of Jackson came to his home and asked him to go to Albion and take charge of an alternating electric machine, working from noon until midnight, for \$45 per month. Being intensely interested in anything relating to machinery and engineering, he took the job and moved his family to Albion. He put the old plant in good repair, stayed two years and then went with Piatt Brothers, an electric company in Lansing, Michigan. After one year with this company the family moved to the aunt's farm, where George had been raised and for the next two years he was a farmer. In 1904 he returned to his former job in Lansing and in 1905 the family came back to Kalamazoo and Mr. Gibson returned to the Bryant Paper Company and worked under Frank Milham. His next job was in the engine room of the State Hospital in Kalamazoo, after which he was again employed by the Bryant Paper Company in

1910. In 1912, a strike closed the mill and Mr. Gibson secured the position of chief engineer at the Hanselman building, remaining until 1917, when he again went to the Bryant Paper Company to operate an engine. In the meantime he had been taking a correspondence course in combustion and received his diploma in 1921.

Later he operated an engine for the Eddy Paper Company in Three Rivers, Michigan, under Frank Milham until he died, when he went to the MacSimBar Paper Mill in Otsego, Michigan, until 1923, when he changed to the Kalamazoo Vegetable Parchment Company working in the beater room and on construction for the next four years. For twelve years he worked for the Grandbois Company installing and collecting from gum vending machines in a number of cities, one of which was Monroe, where he found a job in the engine room of the Monroe Paper Mill until the mill shut down, but continuing to look after his vending machines in a limited way. For a time the family again made their home in Kalamazoo, but in 1933 they returned to Monroe, where George worked for the paper company for six years, when failing health led Mr. and Mrs. Gibson to return to Kalamazoo and establish themselves in a lovely home on Stockbridge

avenue and he secured work as watchman and caring for the boilers for the Kalamazoo Stove Company.

Mr. Gibson is a member of the Methodist Church. He was converted in Mel Trotter's Mission in Grand Rapids October 6, 1906 under Mr. Colgrove. He immediately became active in a similar mission in Kalamazoo and joined the Park Street Church of Christ in 1907 and was a member of that church for nine years. He used tobacco, but when he heard an evangelist say that a man could be a Christian and use tobacco, but he would be a "dirty one" George decided that was not the kind of a Christian he wanted to be and so he quit. At least one young man was led into the ministry by his influence and many have had their faith strengthened by his devotion.

Mrs. Gibson was converted at the age of twelve in a revival conducted by Welsh evangelists on the night before her mother's death. For some years Mr. and Mrs. Gibson have been faithful members of the East Avenue Methodist Church, tithing their income for the support of the Kingdom and doing what they can to promote its work.

November 11, 1916, Mr. and Mrs. Gibson celebrated their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary and on same

month and day in 1941 their fiftieth wedding anniversary with the Reverend Floyd George as a guest at both, before whom, on both anniversaries, they repeated their marriage vows in the presence of a considerable number of friends.

In personal appearance Mr. Gibson is about five feet seven inches tall and weighs about 180 pounds, with brown eyes and hair turning gray. Mrs. Gibson is about five feet three inches tall and weighs around 130 pounds. She enjoys needlework and crocheting. He is a member of the Independent Order of Oddfellows. They are both interesting conversationalists, lively, laughing easily, young looking. The lines on their faces show they have found life good - hard work, no doubt, but lots of love and joy in living with each other and in the service of their Master. The following poem by Mrs. Gibson expresses their philosophy of life:

ONLY A LITTLE GREY HAired MOTHER

I am only a little grey haired mother;
Filling my place in this world of woe,
By cheering the hearts that are sad and weary
With a smile as I onward go.

I am only a little grey haired mother;
Who was called from darkness to light,
All because of this blessed Saviour, who taught
Us the way, the truth and the right.

I am only a little grey haired mother;
But there is peace and joy in my soul
For Jesus is leading me onward;
Though around me the rough billows roll.

I am only a little grey haired mother;
But my heart is light and gay,
For Jesus is my pilot,
Guiding me on to eternity.

I am only a little grey haired mother;
Whose mission on earth will soon be o'er,
For as I listen, yes gently listen,
I hear Him calling from the other shore.

I am only a little grey haired mother;
But my armor I'll soon lay by,
For I know that Jesus and His blessed angels
Are drawing, yes swiftly drawing nigh.

I am only a little grey haired mother;
And my eyes are growing dim,
And my feet are getting weary,
But they're travelling on to Him,
Who has ever loved and led me
In the paths of right,
And I know that I shall meet Him
In that land where all is bright.

(All rights reserved)

Helena Galman Gilbert



H E L E N A G A L M A N G I L B E R T

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Helena Galman Gilbert was born at 126 East Dutton street, Kalamazoo, Michigan, May 16, 1878, the daughter of Henrika Newcastle and John Galman of Holland descent.

Helena Galman attended school in Kalamazoo and graduated from the high school in the class of 1890. She became interested in art and did oil work and china painting.

She was a member of the First Baptist Church and active in its work.

On May 7, 1897, Helena Galman was married to David Webster Gilbert.

She was the mother of two children: Doris Marie, who resides in Kalamazoo and is a teacher in the public schools in Cedar Springs, Michigan; born June 7, 1908; Pauline Arnola, born November 9, 1914, and resides in Kalamazoo.

Death came to Helena Galman Gilbert December 12, 1933. The Reverend M. F. Ashbrook conducted the funeral and burial was made in Riverside Cemetery.



L. F. Robinson

George W. Dilkey

GEORGE WOODBURY GILKEY

No history of Michigan would be complete without having recorded upon its pages the name of George Woodbury Gilkey.

George Gilkey came from a line of ancestors whose lives and deeds were indelibly impressed upon the social and economic life of the communities in which they lived and the traditions and institutions established by them were faithfully carried on by him.

In the village of Plainwell, Allegan County, on October 13, 1879, there was born to John Woodbury and Ida Anderson Gilkey a son, George. In due course of time his educational career was begun in the Plainwell public schools where he was an active participant in the scholastic and athletic curriculum. In all contests of skill he was eminently fair and his ability marked; in his work as a student he gave successful thought and effort to every problem in the growth and advancement of all school objectives. In 1898 he was graduated.

The same year he entered the University of Michigan to pursue a course in Mechanical Engineering.

While there he was elected to membership in Delta Tau Delta Fraternity and identified himself with all efforts tending toward improved educational opportunities. He was graduated from the University in 1903, but returned to take a post-graduate course in 1904.

Mr. Gilkey then returned to Plainwell and entered the employ of the Michigan Paper Company as bookkeeper. He was soon promoted to the position of Assistant Secretary and successively to that of Secretary. Following the death of his father, John W. Gilkey, George was made manager of the Company; a short time later he was elected President, in which capacity he was serving at the time of his death.

Mr. Gilkey was united in marriage with Camilla Rorabeck at Decatur, Michigan, in 1908. To them three children were born, the first of whom died in infancy. The others, John Woodbury and George Ann, at this writing, are students in Antioch College at Yellow Springs, Ohio, and at Gulf Park College, Gulfport, Mississippi, respectively.

Mr. Gilkey's varied interests were shown by his affiliation with several social, business and educational organizations. He carried memberships in the Plainwell Commercial Club, the Plainwell Lodge

of Royal Arch Masons, the Plainwell-Allegan-Gun Lake Recreation Club, the Ot-Well-Egan, and Gull Lake Country Clubs, The Michigan Union, the Kalamazoo Park Club, the Book-paper Manufacturers Association, of which he was at one time chairman of the Executive Committee. He was also a member of the committee appointed by the University of Michigan to organize a paper research department in that institution.

In the history of Plainwell Mr. Gilkey's name will remain on the record of the years as having served his city with distinction for ten years as a member of the Village Council and for fifteen years as a member and President of the Board of Education. He also was a director and President of the Citizen's State Savings Bank. Just previous to his death he was honored by being placed upon the roster of "Who's Who in America".

On October 3, 1935, while returning from a hunting trip in northern Michigan, in company with Dr. Charles J. Woodhams, they came into collision with an automobile truck near Howard City. Both men were seriously injured and Mr. Gilkey's death occurred three days later, on October 6, in Butterworth Hospital, Grand Rapids, Michigan, where they were taken following the accident.

Funeral services were held from Mr. Gilkey's

home on October 9, and interment was in Hillside cemetery in Plainwell.

The deep respect and high esteem in which he was held by all who knew him was attested by the attendance of a very large number of friends and acquaintances at the services which were conducted by the Reverend E. L. Sutcliffe of the Plainwell Methodist Episcopal church.

As an evidence of the affection in which Mr. Gilkey was held in the hearts and minds of those who knew him the following words are quoted as written by Mr. E. A. Stowe, a former director of the Michigan Paper Company and later editor of the Michigan Tradesman:

"Of Mr. Gilkey's personal qualities those associated with him in his company will long speak with affection and even enthusiasm. He was one who believed in keeping his friendships in repair. He was the most loyal and genial of men, of unflagging industry, scrupulous integrity, conscientious to the last degree. He was also animated by fine and delicate sentiment, always ready to put himself at the disposal of a friend. His bright and cheery spirit illumed the day's routine. He had some lovable eccentricities, but they only served to make him more human and to adorn his friendly and sterling character. The range and versatility which his work revealed was remarkable. Here it need only be said that his ability was as remarkable as his fidelity. To his company he gave himself entire and with as deep a devotion as an institution was ever able to evoke from a man. He retained a warm attachment for his position

and for all that it meant to him, while his brave front and hearty laughter in the face of occasional physical warnings helped to give the impression somehow that he had drunk of the fountain of perpetual youth. As an executive he will be missed, while as a friend his death leaves behind it a sense of poignant loss.

"Words are too empty and fail to describe the beautiful character possessed by the deceased, whose life was such an exemplary one. He loved all men, regardless of race or creed, and he so lived his life from day to day as to make it one that commanded the respect, esteem and love of everyone. He was slow to anger, tolerant at all times and had a big heart full of charity to those in need. He was beloved because he loved the beautiful things in life. He adored children and it was common to see him chat with some little chap, regardless of color or station in life. His nature was one that lived close to God and his life was such as to make it the most beautiful religion of all, for it followed the teachings of the Great Master. He loved nature and was never more happy than when he could lay aside the cares of business and retire into the great outdoors where he could marvel at the beauties of nature and commune with the Giver of those mighty works which he loved so well. Such a man did not naturally fear death, but thought of it as a beautiful adventure into another life more wonderful and to be sought for."

From the remarks of the Reverend E. L. Sutcliffe speaking for the citizens of Plainwell, the following is quoted:

"We pause then quietly, midst our hurried living, to erect here his memorial. We shall not carve a monument of stone, which summer's sun and winter's wind would soon efface, nor a tablet of bronze, more lasting but material and

transitory. But we shall design and erect in the eternal quietness which lies behind our hearts, a memorial of tender memories. In these hushed moments I shall endeavor to make articulate our memorial. It is no easy task. It must be done with words, weak things at best. But I shall try.

"Our task is easier because he had a way of sharing his life with his friends. He built his life into theirs.

"There was a winsome graciousness about Mr. Gilkey. He was superlatively deferential. A genial smile, an outstretched hand, a quiet but warm greeting, characterized his approach. Wherever he went, this nobility which manifests itself, went with him. It was the envy of many and the inspiration of not a few. He became, to my personal knowledge, the ideal personality, toward which some in formative years strove in imitation. The press of his hurried life did not rob him of it. The strain of trying situations did not take it away. The acid of competition in the business world did not tarnish it. The collapse of values, through which we have been finding our precarious way, did not deflate this asset. For it was not something external which he wore. It was no mere polish which he assumed. This winsome graciousness was Mr. Gilkey. And so when he disagreed with us, when he was hurried and distraught, he remained himself - the superlative of winsome kindness.

"Repeatedly he gave the impression of humility. He was often almost reticent. And it is not strange that no one loved him the less for it. Surely no small part of the place he holds in our hearts is his, not because he took it, but because we gave it.

"From those who knew him well comes the testimony of his inherent honesty. He did not play sharp tricks upon himself. He was true to himself. And, because of

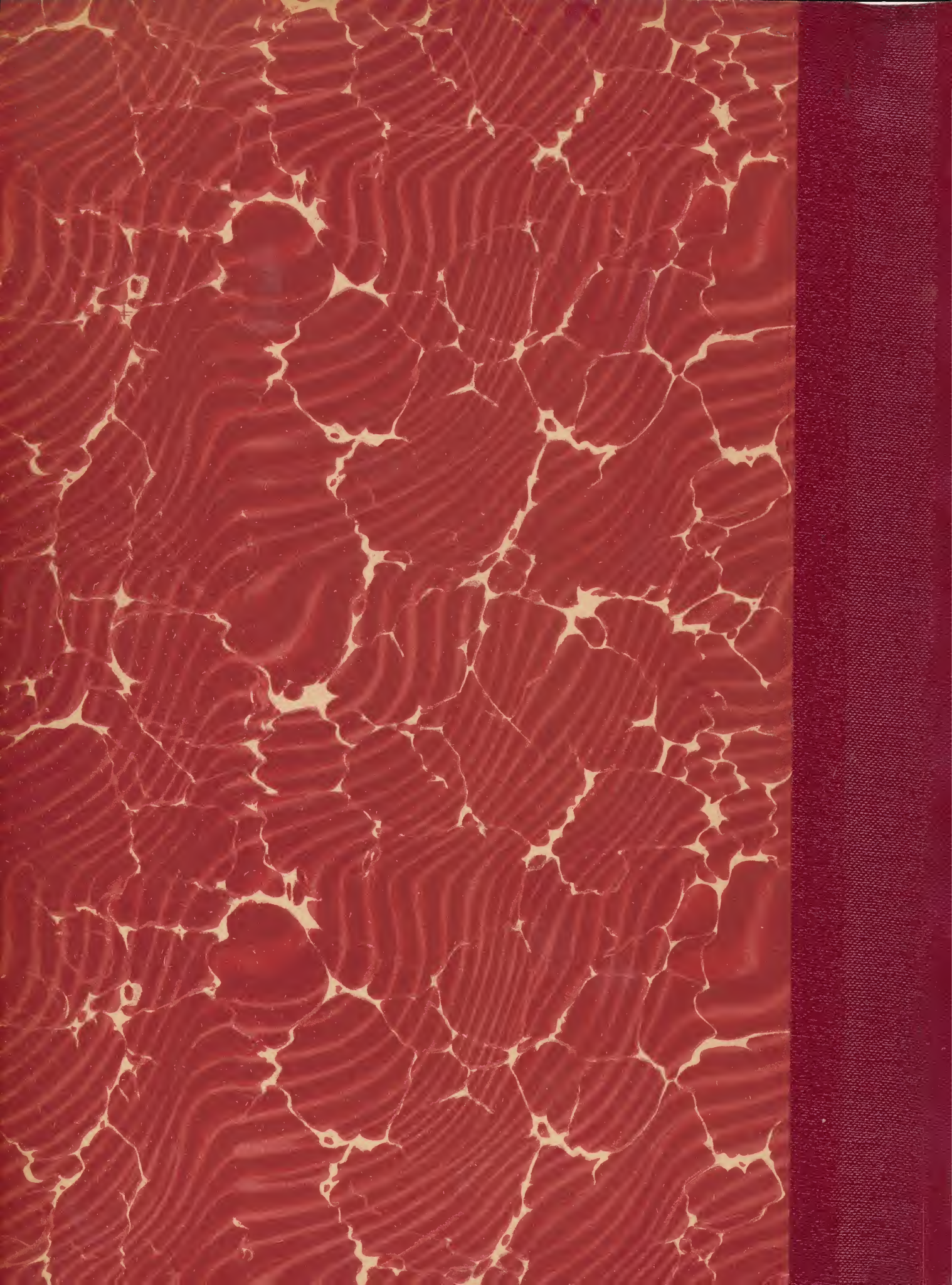
that it followed, as the night the day,
he could not then be false to any man.
He was what men call a "square shooter."

"I would commit no sacrilege in intruding in the sacred intimacies of family life. Men of large responsibility and talent, of necessity, lead life in two spheres. The world and all the word connotes, claims him, honors him. But his family, in memory rich and tender, holds him as their very own. . . Those who knew him intimately testify to the tenderness and intensity of his love for his own. His home life was a happy one. With his wife he found life centering in their children. His was a father's pardonable pride and affection and a husband's tender love. In the midst of all his busy life were these interests paramount, these members of his family, these characters who peopled his dreams, his own.

"A friend reflecting on George's going recalls some lines which beautifully characterize him. The figure is that of a man making his way into the Beyond, preparing for the journey:

'He scarce had need to doff his pride,
Or slough the dross of earth.
E'en as he walked that day to God,
So walked he from his birth
In simpleness and gentleness, and honor,
and clean mirth.'

"And thus, of memories noble, we rear
our memorial to George W. Gilkey.





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